

## **“50th Space Wing vital to AFSPC mission” Video Transcript**

**Technical Sergeant Justin Perran, TACP/JTAC:** “When I have comms with everybody I need to have comms with; when all my equipment works; when I have a solid GPS feed; when everything is secure and working the way it is, I’m going to be the most lethal guy on the battlefield.”

**Captain Micah Hanauer, crew commander/space systems operator:** “Our deterrence though is more in the aspect of they know we can detect something from Russia, North Korea, China and our certain coverage area. So this radar, using our system, we can track something the size of a softball at 3,000 nautical miles.”

**Major Matthew Orlosky, A-10 pilot:** “Search and rescue should be easy in a combat environment. The guy on the ground wants to be found and wants to get out of there. If you’re isolated on the ground, you’re probably scared, alone, a bit afraid. Now you can send messages back to that person to reassure them. Let them know that something is going on in the background to help them get them out.”

**Perran:** “I’ve had soldiers turn around ask me like, ‘Hey do you have good comms? Is your equipment working?’ and I’ll say, ‘Yes.’ They’ll literally smile because they know they’re going to be safe and they’re going to be fine. Having that advantage, yeah it absolutely gives you a little bit of cockiness in a good way, in a warranted way, because no one’s going to do anything to us when all those things are up.”

“First and foremost, the first priority of any JTAC, whether they’re TACP or combat controls, is to prevent fratricide. So the biggest thing something like GPS does is I know where everybody is. And it takes something the size of a watch and now every soldier knows exactly where they are. And they don’t even need to know what those numbers mean, they just need to tell them to me and I’ll know where they are. If you’ve seen the war in the last 15 years, you’re doing these danger close attacks where it’s the other side of the street or the building over and the precision we have now is so much more important now than it was.”

**Hanauer:** “If you look at World War II where it takes 20,000 bombs to hit a target, now today its one weapon, one kill with increased stand up and reliability.”

**Orlosky:** “Growing up as a kid, you watch all the movies -- the astronauts and jets and everything like that. I always wanted to be up in the air, but I never really realized what a civilian would have for your little Tom-Tom, your GPS your iPhone or something like that. And then when you get into the Air Force and see how it guides aircraft, how people can report locations, how you can use munitions to drop on that, how you use space to find targets, analyze movement and do all this stuff you only dreamt about watching the Discovery Channel as a kid, it’s pretty amazing.”

**Perran:** “GPS has just worked for us. So I use it constantly every day. I know where guys are. I know where I am and now I can use that to find out where the enemy is. Things like that. That gets taken for granted because it’s been so reliable for us. I don’t have a particular instance where GPS saved the day because it’s just always been part of what we’re doing.”

“Today, no one even considers GPS not being an option or it not working. We talk about it and we think about it, but it’s a light switch and it just works. Like you flip the switch, you have GPS.”

“No, I don’t want to be in a fair fight. The advantage is that America’s military is so well trained and equipped that even if you take everything away, we’re still better than you. But when you add all the capabilities that we have, when you add the technology, when you get me down to that five minute window, that’s absolutely what I’m going to prefer, because we’re going to win that fight. We’re going to win it so fast that you won’t even know what happened. All of my guys are going to be safe and you’re not going to send any more because you know you’re just going to lose.”

**[END AUDIO]**